Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS CTC Meeting: July 13-14, 2005

Reference No.: 2.2a.(3)

Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM Prepared by: Jay Norvell

Chief Financial Officer Division Chief

Environmental Analysis

Ref: SUMMARY – NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT,
ROUTES 5 AND 56 IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY – PROVIDE A CONNECTOR BETWEEN
ROUTE 5 AND ROUTE 56 NEAR DEL MAR HEIGHTS

ISSUE:

The California Transportation Commission is being asked to review and comment at the July 2005 Commission meeting on the following Notice of Preparation (NOP):

• 11-SD-5, KP 52.9/53.7 (PM 32.8/33.3), 11-SD-56, KP 0.0/0.8 (PM 0.0/0.5). Provide a connector between Route 5 and Route 56 near Del Mar Heights in San Diego County.

PROGRAMMING:

This project is not fully funded. The project is programmed in the 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program for \$2,000,000 in Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED). Funding sources for this project include Demonstration Funds, Federal Discretionary, and Regional Surface Transportation Program funds. The total estimated project cost is \$137 million. Construction is estimated to begin in 2013.

ALTERNATIVES BEING CONSIDERED:

- No Project.
- Direct Freeway-To-Freeway Connector Ramps.
- Freeway-to-Freeway Connector Ramps with Loop.
- Local Street Improvements.
- Local Street Improvements with West to North Direct Freeway-To-Freeway Connector Ramp.

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POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

- Natural resources (wetlands)
- Coastal Zone impacts
- Community issues public controversy
- Visual impacts
- Noise

Because this project involves considerable public controversy, with competing local interests that may also conflict with possible impacts to Coastal Zone wetlands, and because there may be unmitigable significant impacts, an Environmental Impact Report is being prepared.

PROPOSED MEASURES TO MINIMIZE HARM:

- Design options that minimize encroachment on nearby lagoon to the extent feasible.
- Best Management Practices during construction.
- Mitigation of natural resource impacts.
- Coordination with diverse community interests in an effort to balance competing concerns about visual and other impacts.
- Noise attenuation.
- Coordination of this project with other projects in the corridor.

Attachment

